

Appl. No. 09/964,364

Art Unit 1764

February 26, 2004

Supplemental to the Reply of December 4, 2003

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the present application in view of the previous reply, as well as the foregoing amendments to the claims and present specification.

In the present supplemental reply, claims 1-3 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-11 are pending in the present application.

No new matter has been added by way of these amendments, because each amendment is supported by the present specification and the specification of the parent application (U.S. Application No. 09/101,809) (i.e., see Figures 1-3 of this application; see also claim 3 regarding the temperature range of the U.S. patent and page 7 of the parent application's specification).

The present specification has also been amended, which is supported by the figures, and by the parent application (now U.S. Patent No. 6,328,907; for instance, see Figures 1-3 and page 7). No new matter has been added with this amendment.

Based upon the above considerations, entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and allow the currently pending claims.

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Interview with Examiner

Applicants thank the Examiner for her time and for the telephone Interview initiated on February 23, 2004. In response to the Examiner's inquiries, Applicants have amended the instantly pending claims and the present specification to clarify how the present invention encompasses an azeotropic mixture having a certain molar ratio at the cited pressure and temperature ranges. Based on the above-mentioned Interview with the Examiner, Applicants believe that the present invention defines patentable subject matter. Thus, a declaration to that effect is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The previous reply dated December 4, 2003, made a full and complete response to all issues as cited in the Office Action. The supplemental reply herein contains further amendments to the claims and present specification that support Applicants' position of patentability for the present invention. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance issue for the present case.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Eugene T. Perez (Reg. No. 48,501) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

Andrew D. Meikle, #32,868

ADM/ETP
0020-4907P

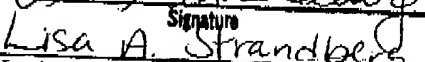
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

(Rev. 09/30/03)

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